



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 844**

January Session, 2011

\* \_\_\_\_SB00844JUD\_\_042911\_\_ \*

**AN ACT ADOPTING A FOSTER PARENT BILL OF RIGHTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2011*) (a) There is established a  
2       foster parent bill of rights for any person who is licensed as a foster  
3       parent by the Department of Children and Families. The foster parent  
4       bill of rights shall require the department to:

5       (1) Treat the foster parent with consideration and respect;

6       (2) Notify the foster parent of meetings scheduled by the  
7       department concerning the foster child in order to allow the foster  
8       parent to actively participate and have input into the case-planning  
9       and decision-making process regarding the foster child;

10       (3) Provide the foster parent with support services to assist in the  
11       care of the foster child that are consistent with the foster child's  
12       approved permanency plan;

13       (4) Provide the foster parent with open, complete and timely  
14       responses to requests;

15       (5) Provide the foster parent with information concerning the foster  
16       child's medical history, general behavior and relationships with other  
17       foster parents, as permitted under state and federal law;

18 (6) Provide the foster parent with information concerning the  
19 educational history, life experiences and placement circumstances of  
20 the foster child, as permitted under state and federal law;

21 (7) Provide the foster parent with information on all department  
22 policies and procedures that relate to the role of a foster parent;

23 (8) Provide the foster parent with appropriate training to enhance  
24 relevant skills and abilities of the foster parent;

25 (9) Provide the foster parent with (A) information on services that  
26 are available through the department, and (B) contact information that  
27 allows the foster parent to contact the department at any time;

28 (10) Provide the foster parent with an opportunity to be heard  
29 regarding department decisions and practices, and not retaliate against  
30 a foster parent who questions or appeals a decision or practice of the  
31 department; and

32 (11) Provide the foster parent with a copy of the foster parent bill of  
33 rights (A) when a child is placed in foster care with the foster parent,  
34 and (B) upon request of the foster parent.

35 (b) No provision of this section shall create a private right of action  
36 for any person.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	New section

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**KID**      *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*      HS

**HS**      *Joint Favorable*

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*